

NCNA HEADS AND TALES

The Official Publication of the
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Mission Statement

To Promote and To Serve Northern California Numismatics

One-Hundred Twenty-Seventh (127th) Issue

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“I Always Prefer To Believe The Best Of Everybody. It Saves So Much Trouble.”
----*Rudyard Kipling*

2019-2020 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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Deadline For The One Hundred Twenty-Eighth (128th) Issue ----- April 1st

In *The Numismatist* in 1905 Virgil M. Brand shared his philosophies in an article that included these paragraphs:

The Objects of Coin Collecting Ask collectors their reason for collecting and almost invariably they answer that it is for recreation. With the greater number this is the paramount motive, and as recreation is a necessity as well as a diversion, a collection in providing it, provides a service of no little value. But recreation is of several kinds, and compensating mental recreation is more difficult to find than that of a physical character.

Perhaps the chief value of collecting is that it arouses so keen an interest in the objects collected, that research and study concerning them, which otherwise would have been uninteresting and irksome and might have received little or no attention, becomes an attractive recreation, and in consequence made much more thorough and comprehensive. A prompt reward for the expended effort is a greatly increased appreciation of the collected objects. Knowledge gained through an absorbing interest in the things to which it relates, is fixed far more firmly in the mind than if acquired with no such incentive. Nor will the impulse toward the acquisition of knowledge, thus given, easily exhaust itself as it will be constantly regenerated by the discovery of new material...

The majority, possibly, of coin collectors commence their cabinets with the single thought of finding amusement, and view collecting merely as a pastime, interesting and fascinating, but with no more substantial value than to employ agreeably a few idle hours. The acquisition accidentally or otherwise, of one or more coins or medals, which are at the time unknown and strange to them and therefore arouse their curiosity, engenders a desire to possess other specimens with similar attributes—and thus they become collectors.

At this period they have no very clear idea of what they hope to accomplish; it is only when they have progressed sufficiently to realize the magnitude and unlimited resources of the numismatic field that they perceive the splendid and varying opportunities that coin collecting presents, and it is then that they define more clearly to themselves the objects and purposes for which they henceforth collect...

In a catalog published the same year B. Max Mehl offered these thoughts:

As a hobby or diverting pursuit, the collecting of rare coins affords more pleasure and greater interest than any collectible object. The decided advantage in coin collecting is that while the subject is inexhaustible in its variations, yet a child may commence the pursuit and reach as far as his means will permit.

While the more advanced collectors clamor for the great rarities, the beginner or a collector of moderate means will find sufficient interest in collecting of the cheaper class of coins. And it is not necessary to possess all the dates of a given denomination but the various types. The series of dollars, for instance, may be represented by five specimens, representing the different types. The half dollar by seven species and so on, all of which may be obtained at a nominal cost, and yet would make a most interesting collection, while to obtain the entire series of the dollar only, not including the 1804, would cost about \$500.

MINTMASTER'S QUILL: An Editor's Prerogative

My Friends,

"Great or small, if you have a willingness to serve and enjoy your club, let us know so we can discover how you can help."

The above was the closing sentence in a mass email sent by Matthew Hutchison, who is Fremont (California) Coin Club's Treasurer, appealing for signups to the Club's Annual Installation Banquet, which apparently has been changed from the original intention.

Our brothers and sisters in Fremont Coin Club have officer and director positions vacant. Fremont is not alone. Delta Coin Club needs an Events Coordinator and someone to chair its annual now one day show. Fairfield has one officer serving as President, Secretary, its MONEYGRAM Editor, plus membership. The well-known and esteemed 'Bill' Hurja carries the burden for the Liberty (Millbrae, California) Numismatic Society. Peninsula depends upon a few devotees. San Jose Coin Club, after over a year, still has vacant positions.

Other local northern California coin clubs may have the officers and directors; yet, the chores and needs fall upon a smaller, and ever smaller, contingent or the particular group endures challenges to hold events, and earn some funds for the group.

It seems an ever smaller number of devotees are serving our northern California organized numismatics. Why? Good Question. Tough Answer(s).

Your Editor offers only these observations:

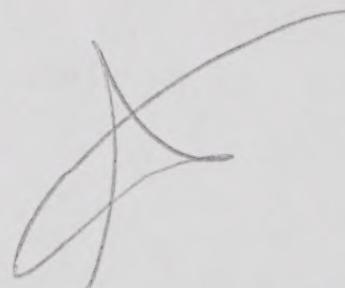
The traffic in the greater San Francisco Bay Area takes away the fun and enjoyment attending a local coin club meeting. In addition, those who are serving, and carrying the burdens, have been doing it not just for years but even decades.

Just ask how long the energizing and gifted Merle V. Avila has been Redwood Empire (Santa Rosa, California) Coin Club's President or how many decades Fred G. van den Haak has toiled for and with the Peninsula Coin Club or, well not that lengthy, the additional burden carried by Joyce and Ronald Korock for the Delta (Stockton, California) Coin Club with the Club's vacant Show and Events positions.

Furthermore, 'there is no joy nowadays' in being an officer. All that happens is open to complaint and criticism: consternation from those who refuse to contribute.

But, back to Matt. Matt, I wish that I, as limited as well as overextended, could assist. All that I, and it is worthless, offer in atonement is: *'hang in there' and thanks for what you are doing.*

Maybe the winds and currents shall change. Maybe someone(s) shall step forward. But, until then, you are serving and supporting the 'world's greatest hobby': *'the king of hobbies and hobby of kings.'* THANKS!



GOLD MINER DIGGINGS: NCNA News and Happenings

2020 Forum (Formerly 'Seminar')

Seventh (7th) Annual
CSNA/NCNA NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
NUMISMATIC FORUM

Saturday, November 21, 2020

Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum

734 Marin, at *Capital in downtown, Vallejo, California*

Registration Opens: 8:30 AM

Tentative Theme: '*Having Fun With Coins*'

FREE Admission and Museum Open To All Attendees!

Door Prizes, Too!

The California State Numismatic Association (CSNA) *and* our Northern California Numismatic Association (NCNA) are proud to announce these four confirmed presenters:

Lisa Dare with James A. Williston,

Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Wife and Husband Team with Numismatic Passion

Bret Irick,

Detroit, Michigan and Windsor, Ontario, Canada

Respected Numismatic Advocate from the Midwest

Lawrence K. 'Larry' Casagrande,

Clayton, California

Intense Scholar for '*best-in-the-grade coins*'

Matthew L. Malvini,

San Jose, California

Now a Junior at SJSU *and* Enjoying Coins and Friends!

The exact titles are pending; the theme is subject to slight change. The emphasis at this year's Forum is to enthrall and to excite numismatic knowledge and passion. Each presenter would bring to the Forum much expertise and certainly experience. All have multiple pursuits, and all have commitment to our 'world of money hobby'. The May NCNA HEADS AND TALES issue as well as the quarterly California State Numismatic Association's (CSNA) CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIST future issues would report their respective titles or topics.

Lisa Dare and her husband, **James A. Williston**, are heavily involved in Canadian numismatics and specifically with the energized Calgary (Alberta, Canada) Numismatic Society. Their participation continues the trend and tradition of a 'Canadian element' added to the annual Forum. **Bret Irick** has been heavily involved with the Michigan State Numismatic Society (MSNS), the Ontario (Canada) Numismatic Association (ONA), and Central States Numismatic Society (CSNS), to name just three.

'Larry' Casagrande just completed four years of service as the Diablo (Concord/Walnut Creek, California) Numismatic Society President and has gained a national recognition in his pursuit for 'best-in-the-grade-coins'. **Matthew L. Malvini** will be celebrating his twenty-first (21st) birthday the date after the Forum, and he has emerged as a numismatic leader. He spoke to rave reviews at the 2019 Forum.

Joint Event

This year's Northern California Numismatic Forum is again a **joint endeavor**, funded by both, between the **Northern California Numismatic Association (NCNA)** and the **California State Numismatic Association (CSNA)**. CSNA has strived to coordinate and hold one of its Symposia's in northern California; but, limitations have prevented such effort. Thus, this opportunity to join with its compatriots, our Association, continues.

With the addition of our compatriot statewide organization, this would augment promotion and interest.

The enthusiasm of a joint event helped insured that the aforementioned four invited presenters readily agreed and accepted in August 2019.

Special Enticement For Local Coin Clubs READ!

Local coin clubs, club members of either the California State Numismatic Association (CSNA) or the Northern California Numismatic Association (NCNA), via their respective attending members at this Forum, will have a chance to win (earn) minor Mexican gold coins or Silver Eagles.

Each attendee, at registration, can choose two local coin clubs to place into a random drawing, writing two club names on a prepared drawing slip. If the slip is picked and if the submitter is still in attendance at the Forum's end, his or her respective coin clubs would win a minor Mexican gold coin. A second chance drawing would be then done for Silver Eagles.

The stipulations are simple. The local coin club must be a club member of either CSNA or NCNA. The submitter must remain in attendance to the Forum's end and would claim, and take, the respective winning price. This is a FREE drawing. Nothing is asked or has to be donated. *Note:* This enticement drawing is specific to 'coin clubs' that our members and does not interfere with Door Prizes, which are open to all Forum attendees.

For the 2019 Forum, these local coin clubs claimed something: Fairfield Coin Club, Liberty Numismatic Society, Peninsula Coin Club, and the Vallejo Numismatic Society, as well as both our Association and the California State Numismatic Association (CSNA).

2020 Seminar Patron

Continuing the successful 'Patron' program, your Association seeks and solicits 'Patrons' at the following two levels. *Note:* Any donations received would be credited to our Association's share of the Forum's expenditures. Co-mingling of funds is being avoided. 'Patrons' are welcomed at these levels:

GOLD MINER	\$100.00	Name Listed In Program Letter Acknowledgment Certificate Name Posted At Seminar Engraved 'Token of Esteem'
PROSPECTOR	\$50.00	Name Listed In Program Letter Acknowledgment Certificate Name Posted At Seminar

It is hoped this generous support would build our Association's Treasury and insure solid financial funding for future Forums.

'Patrons' are now being accepted and should be mailed to 'PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California, 94590-0410'. Make remittance payable to the '*Northern California Numismatic Association*' or 'NCNA'. Include your name and responding contact. All 'Patrons' would be recognized at and during the 2019 Forum and in its printed program.

Note: Those 'Patrons' at the 'Gold Miner' level would be generously matched, by a 'dear friend of NCNA', 'dollar for dollar': \$100.00 being doubled to \$200.00!

THE DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 1, 2020! *Imperative!*

2020 Dues

Dues Notice has been attached to the title page for those NCNA Individual Members and Club Members obligated 2020 dues.

If dues not already prepaid or a Life Member, Needless to say, prompt payment would be appreciated. Dues rates remain: \$5.00 for Individual Members and \$10.00 for Club Members. Remittances may to 'PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California, 94590-0410'.

Membership Cards are no longer issued. Prompt payment of 2020 Dues would be welcomed.

New members are most welcome to join. Application procedure is quite simple: payment with name and mailing address, that's it. New members are always invited.

Donnell Award

This Award, specific to local Club Members (a coin club must be a Northern California Numismatic Association (NCNA) member) is available. Requests, in writing, are directly to 'PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California, 94590-0410' or at EMPERORI@juno.com. Only written requests, with specifics, are honored. The request must include the full proper name of the individual and the date to be bestowed. Retroactive awards are not allowed.

While presently there is no charge for 'Donnell Awards', these are limited to a two (2) maximum per calendar year per requesting Club Member, and a *nominal donation* of \$15.00 per award would be appreciated, covering the engraving and preparation as well as any mailing and handling. *Note:* The Awards Coordinator for our Association is Your Editor and Treasurer.

Coin Show Schedule

The single most useful and popular of NCNA's services, the latest Coin Show Schedule has been included with this issue, and Club Members may request complimentary copies to distribute and to share among their members or at a local coin club's show. Contact Your Editor.

Note: Timely submission is imperative. Also, submissions must be direct to **Fred G. van den Haak**, Coin Show Schedule Coordinator, not Your Editor. He can be emailed at fredvdh@gmail.com.

Depending on date request was received, at least fifty (50) copies would be provided, in gratis.

'IKE's For A's/JFK's For B's

Our Association, with the Fairfield Coin Club and Vallejo Numismatic Society, has developed and seeks to implement regularly this 'youth numismatic encouragement'. The success depends on NCNA Club Members promoting this to their respective youth members.

The 'IKE's For A's/JFK's For B's' has two intentions: *one*, to reward academic excellence, and *two*, entice youth into our 'world of money' with the simple premise: 'how many youngsters, or even adults, have seen and held an 'Ike Dollar' or Kennedy Half Dollar'.

Needless the success of this depends on the generous donations of common circulated 'Ike Dollars' and Kennedy Half Dollars. Surprisingly, some hobbyists have responded with quite nice donations.

Local northern California coin clubs, *who are NCNA Club Members*, are invited to contact our Association and make arrangements to have this 'IKE's For A's/JFK's For B's' at their respected coin show or at a meeting. Promotion is the responsibility of the local coin club.

Legacy Fund

The 'Legacy Fund' remains and welcomes donations. NCNA is a bona fide 501c3 non-profit. Donations would be acknowledged and listed in NCNA HEADS AND TALES, unless preferred not. The 'Legacy Fund' has supported youth numismatics and purchased loanable PowerPoint Projectors. Charitable donations can be mailed to 'PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California, 94590-0410'.

Compliments To 'Kim' Kiick

Our Association shares the satisfaction and appreciation of the Fairfield Coin Club and Vallejo Numismatic Society which were graced at their recent December 7, 2019 Joint Christmas Party, in Vallejo, California, with the presence of **Kimberly S. Kiick**, the current American Numismatic Association (ANA) Executive Director.

'Kim' with her visiting mother, **Teresa**, took a break from her ANA duties and flew to northern California to meet and to mingle with coin hobbyists, as the late **Lee H. Gong** would remark, at the 'grass roots' and 'in the trenches' of our 'world of money hobby'. She stated quite intensely that, even with a disrupted flight to, it was a most enjoyable evening and later on Sunday an equally grand time in the world famous neighboring Napa Valley.

Among the courtesies, 'Kim' did during this Joint Christmas Party was present '*Certificates of Recognition*' by and from the American Numismatic Association (ANA) to these Northern California numismatic stalwarts:

Merle V. Avila, Santa Rosa, California
Robert W. Belleau, Sr., Vallejo, California, *posthumously*
Herman E. 'Gene' Berry, Jr., San Pablo, California
Lori Berry, San Pablo, California
Irene Carrillo, Rodeo, California, *in absentia*
'Doctor' Lloyd G. Chan, Fairfield, California
'Vince' Clagg, Fairfield, California, *in absentia*
Donald L. Hill, Vallejo, California
Edwin T. Hoffmark, Jr., Vallejo, California
James E. Kern, Vallejo, California
Alvin H. W. Lo, San Jose, California, *in absentia*
George B. Locatelli, Fairfield, California
Herbert Miles, Topanga, California
Suzanne Trigonis, San Jose, California, *in absentia*
David J. Trimingham, Fairfield, California

2019 Miller Medal

Among the other presentations that 'Kim' Kiick graciously did was the awarding of the coveted '*Miller Medal*', the '*Ron Miller Memorial Award*' of our Association, onto **Herbert Miles**, of Topanga, California, his new home. 'Herb' drove up and emceed the Party. Among the most respected California homed numismatists, 'Herb' has had an exemplary record for the California State Numismatic Association (CSNA), the Alameda Coin Club, which he resurrected, and the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society (PCNS). He has been a frequent program presenter, too.

His selection continues the tradition of this '*Miller Medal*' onto those who serve and support our hobby with a multi-facet approach.

Included with this NCNA HEADS AND TALES issue is the updated roster of '*Miller Medal*' honorees.

Deadline, which is strictly enforced, for written nominations is June 30, 2020. Information or the criteria can be requested at '*PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California, 94590-0410*'.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, Ron Miller Memorial Award, 'The Miller Medal'

Note: "The Miller Medal" is presented and awarded by and from the Northern California Numismatic Association (NCNA), with a maximum of two (2) per calendar year. It is named for the late Ronald Lee Miller (1944-1993), and it is NCNA's highest and most esteemed honor. The award is an engraved silver medal with a portrait of the late 'Ron' Miller plus a small walnut wall plaque. Nominations are called for each January with the selection by the NCNA's Board of Directors.

COIN SHOW SCHEDULE

These Coin Show listings are provided as a free service to the numismatic community by the Northern California Numismatic Association. Show listings are updated quarterly and are available without cost to member Coin Clubs. If you would like to have a Coin Club Show listed, please send all pertinent show information early to: PN.C.N.A., Fred G. van den Haak, P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, Ca. 94306-0484. If you would like a Commercial Show listed: you need to be a N.C.N.A. member for one free annual listing. Additional listings for Commercial shows are \$15 each. You may also e mail the information to: fredvdh@uic.com

The joint website for the Fairfield Coin Club, Solano Silver Round Club, Vallejo Numismatic Society and Northern California Numismatic Association is: www.solanocoinclub.com and updated Show listings can be seen on this website!

Feb. 8-9, 2020 **SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO**. San Francisco Area Coin, Stamp and Collectibles Show, South San Francisco Conference Center, 255 S. Airport Blvd., South San Francisco 94080. Saturday 10am-5pm and Sunday 10am-4pm. Admission \$4, \$2 off with coupon. Scott Griffin, P.O. Box 1876, Suisun, CA 94585 Ph: 415-601-8661 E Mail: scott@griffin.com

Feb. 14-15
2020 **SANTA ROSA**. Redwood Empire Coin Club 52nd Annual Show, E.L. Finley Hall, Sonoma County Fairgrounds, 1350 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa. Bourse: Merle Avila (707) 585-3711 or (707) 824-4811 eves. Admission \$1, under 12 free.

Feb. 16, 2020 **CUPERTINO**. "Cupertino" Coin Club 48th Annual Coin Show, St. Joseph's Church Hall, 10110 N. De Anza Blvd., (corner De Anza and Stevens Creek) Cupertino, 95015 Bourse: Bruce Braga (408) 839-1883 or Cupertino Coin Club, P.O. Box 448, Cupertino, CA 95015-0448. Free Parking. Admission: \$2 adults, youth 17 and under free

Mar. 1, 2020 **LIVERMORE**. Livermore Valley Coin Club 57th Annual Coin Show, Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur, Livermore. Bourse: Jonathan Mitchell, P.O. Box 610, Livermore, Ca. 94551. Phone (925) 954-5221.

Mar. 27-9, 2020 **SANTA ROSA** "2020" WESTS Token Show and Jamboree. Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa 95404. Contact: Merle Avila 707-585-3711 merle@avilaarchitects.com.

May 3, 2020 **VALLEJO**. Vallejo Numismatic Society 48th Annual Show, Florence Douglas Senior Center, 333 Amador (between Georgia and Florida), Vallejo. Admission and parking are FREE! Bourse: Vince Lacariere, P O Box 4281, Vallejo, Ca. 94590-0428 Phone: 510-305-5339

May 8-9, 2020 **SAN JOSE** Coin Expo San Jose. Double Tree Hotel, 2050 Gateway mPlace, San Jose. Cointact: Scott Griffin, Phone: 707-434-9200 or email: scott@griffincoin.com